

## Values, Lifestyle, and Discipleship: Session 2

### By Bob Kraning

Bob Kraning:

Okay, all right. Your beliefs would be saying, I know this thing is right. Your values would be saying, but I'm not doing that. I'm not walking that out. I made this statement yesterday.

I said to me, like, functional values are the ones the wheels on my belief wagon. In other words, I'm saying, I've got beliefs here. I believe this and this and this and this and this. And in order to walk that out, I've got to get wheels on that thing. I've got to make it move.

And that's my value system that makes that move. I have never really thought about it as we're those synonymous terms in my mind, they're not. I can say I believe a lot of things. To me, if we keep the definition on value that we used yesterday, a value is a characteristic that demonstrates how I've decided to use my life. Then the value is the walking.

That's what I do every day, not just what I believe, but what I do. And very often that's different. People question you about your beliefs. You say, Well, Yeah, I believe this, or I believe this. I believe this.

And yet our lifestyle can be very different from what we say. We believe we can walk away over here somewhere. So I think that's probably a good definition of it. So anyway, I'm not totally sure on that. But to me, that's where it comes down in my mind.

Let me give you the last couple of little things. And then I'd like for us, if any of you wrote down trying to keep this in mind, I'd like to have you share this with us. I'll write some things on here. I want to throw some things up there before I put my little charts up there. If you wrote down anything.

We talked yesterday. When we concluded, I said, if you think about some things in your own life, like issues that you feel like you've got some things really straightened up this way. If we're talking about kind of a vertical value concept versus a horizontal value concept, what are some things or a thing or a group of things that you tend to feel are down here, things that you're always trying to get up, like, you kind of, you know... To me, those are like, and it's not a good analogy, but it's like a New Year's resolution that never gets achieved. It's like a commitment that we make somewhere, but we're never quite able to get it into practice.

It always seems to be down here, and we're always working at getting it up. And I want to see if we can't categorize some of those this morning. If we can, like if we can get three or four or five items that may affect or bug a lot of us, then I want to show you this little chart I have that kind of helps me. I have some things that are very specific in my thinking in this area. And that's why I made my charts.

My chart will not fit your life. I want you to know that already. Now, there's an area of my chart that might fit your life, but there'll be a couple of areas that obviously will not fit your life. So if this chart seems useful in its concept, you got to obviously make up your own chart, and you

would make it primarily off of any list that we put together. Let me give you just two or three other items that we didn't get concluded on yesterday.

Remember when we read Romans One yesterday, we talked about the concept that these people knew God. Like Romans One tells us they knew God, and though they knew God, they chose in their own choice, they chose not to honor him as God. That was their choice. And rather it says kind of professing themselves to be wise. They became fools.

And then they begin to do a whole series of things that are listed there. And I just wrote down these four things that happen when we tend to walk that direction. First of all, there was a loss of personal identity. They lose out in Romans One. When you study Romans One from verse 20 to the end of the chapter, they lose their identity.

They do not understand who they are in God's creation. And that's obvious because they begin to distort everything. The second thing I wrote down is they fracture normal kinds of relationships, healthy kinds of relationships, Godly kind of relationships they begin to fracture into. Now, we can do that in lots of ways, and we'll talk about that a little bit. We can do that in respect ways.

We can do that in sexual ways. There are many ways that we can distort what to me are good biblical value systems, and that's what they do. They get in and mess up relationships, then consequently, that messes up and kind of fractures the whole marriage, family thing. That is very biblical. And if you take that and carry it out to its end in history, just study it historically, not biblically.

You will see that that can collapse a total society, like a whole society can go down on those deteriorated values. And many societies in our history have gone down on just bad moral values and lousy deterioration in people's concepts of what is right and wrong, what is good and bad. And it appears to me that as we study history and look at our country, it would seem to me that we are running a very rapid path in that direction. And not that we're going to deteriorate and destroy our country in the next three weeks, but it seems to me that that is what we're bent on.

We're bent on a national destruction by the very concept of our lifestyle. And so it's important that we understand that then. The other thing that I wrote down, I put the concept of our society is to tempt to heal itself. In other words, we got all kinds of people trying to heal our society, but doing it with no reference point other than ourselves and our peers. In other words, I'm using me and you to try to heal us, and it doesn't work.

And people are finding out very rapidly that the two of us have the same problems. And if that's our only reference point, we have trouble healing one another. Now we can empathize and we can sympathize or we can even at that point do what Romans one does. At the end of the chapter, it says they not only did this, but they encouraged other people to do it. And that becomes the other thrust of that person who goes that route is I will get all of these other people to do what I'm doing, then I don't feel so bad.

And that's a concept of keeping up with the Joneses, that's the concept of walking in that value concept, that what I'm doing is lousy. But if I can get ten other people to do what I'm doing, I

don't feel as bad about being lousy, because now we're all lousy, see, but if I'm living in the midst of people with very high values and I've got very crummy values, I can feel very crummy very quickly. And so somewhere in there I have to compensate for that. So we get a society that attempts to heal itself internally with no reference point but itself and the other people around it. And if I function in that fashion, I don't have a lot of answers.

It's interesting to me when you counsel people, and I'm sure Dennis would say when you counsel people who are really seriously in trouble, they're not terribly interested.

They may be a little bit of peace when you tell them you've been through the same thing, but that does not solve their problem. What they've come to you for is to find a solution to a problem. And it seems to me that at least in part, what we are as Christians tends to be some beginning of a solution. It is not the solution, certainly not one who says that every problem is spiritual. I think probably that's true, but I don't think you can deal with every problem in a spiritual fashion.

I think sometimes there are very human nitty problems that have to be dealt with on a human nitty level. My greatest example in my Ministry probably was a guy who has now graduated from UCLA, and probably some of you heard me tell this, because it really struck me. I had a kid one night at Forest Home when he was in high school, came to see me late at night, got me kind of I was just about in bed and sat down on the floor and said he had to tell me this terrible problem. He said, I've got this awful problem. I got to tell you about it.

And I said, Fine. He said, you will not believe. I said, Wonderful. And he said, It is. And he got terribly upset and we went for five minutes and told me anything.

I said, hey, tell me, try me. I don't get shocked easily. Try me. He said, okay, I'll tell you what. He said, I will tell you my problem if you promise that you will not tell me to pray about it.

I said, you got it. I said, Tell me why you don't want to pray about it. He said, I told a guy my problem one year ago. He told me to pray about it. I prayed about it for a year and it's worse.

So he said, I don't want to pray about it. So he told me this problem. And when he finished telling me the problem, the problem, and I'll just give it to you in a nutshell. But the problem basically was he started reading really dirty books. He started out with just magazines like Playboy and stuff like that.

Then he started getting, reading like the dollar 25 jobs. And he started reading one or two of these a week and had been doing it for almost two years. And he said, I'm at a point where I cannot look at anybody, read anything, see anything, think about anything, hear anything that I don't think dirty. He said, My mind is filthy. And he said, that's all I do.

And he began to cry and it was so funny because I said to him, I said, what do you buy the books? And he told me about the store. I said, when you go by the store, go by the store every day, going back and forth to school every afternoon? Yes, every afternoon I go by there. Is it open when you go in the morning?

No, it's not open when I go in the morning, but yeah, every afternoon. I said, hey, let me ask you a question. I said, do you want to quit two blocks worth? He said, what? I said, do you want to quit two blocks worth?

He said, I don't know what you're talking about. I said, Suppose he came out of the school, walked to the corner, turned right, walked over one block, walked to you, even with your house, turned left and walked down to your house. I said, you don't go by the store, you can't go in right, you don't go in, you can't buy, you go buy, you don't read. And it was just like a revelation to the guy. He just goes, yeah.

I said, I want to do that. I said, Neat. I said, all you got to do when you come out of school in the afternoon is walk to the corner, say, God, help me to turn right. And I said, the minute you turn right and step off of the curve, you've whipped it. I'll guarantee you I said, you don't have to go in the store and get this book and start reading going, oh, God, help me not to buy this.

Then you buy it. You get home, you say, oh, God, help me not to read this. I know, it's terrible. It's like the drunk who's sitting in the bar saying, oh, God, help me not to swallow it's, idiotic. I mean, there's no way you're going to solve it there.

You got to solve it back down the street somewhere. And you know something? That was in August and December. He sent me a Christmas card. Now, I'll never forget.

I still got my file. And he signed his name and the name didn't even ring a Bell. It said over. I flipped it over. Said on the back been walking two blocks ever since August.

It's changed my life. See, there are problems. Sure, it's a spiritual problem, but boy, a simple physical solution could sure get a value system moving in our minds and get us moving in a direction. He just walked out of school in the afternoon saying, God, when I get that corner, he turned right the minute he turned, he told me later. He said, the minute I stepped off of that curb, I knew I had whipped.

Walk a block, walk to your home and walk back, and you got it whipped. He said, I did not walk by or go by that store on foot. For a year and a half, he never went by there. Now, I'm sure he could go in there anytime and buy a magazine or something decent. But for a year and a half, he never went there.

See, that's a value concept. It became important to him to get his mind cleaned up. It was valuable to him if he was going to be anything for God, to get the crud out of his mind. And yet he knew the temptation, and he knew he blew it every time he walked by there. And it was so simple to walk a block, and yet somehow it just had never triggered.

And just saying that just his expression. I would give anything to have a movie just to show you. It was just like a light went on. He said, yeah, it was like, Geez, I could do that. I could walk a block.



That's no big deal. And suddenly we have got a value set in motion. And that's really the thrust of what we want to try to do in our lifestyle is to get something set of motion. Now, let me suggest to you I have a little list of things I'd like to hear some of yours share with me. And you don't have to.

If it's specific, fine. If it's more in a general area, share with me. Maybe some things that you've written down or have in your head. Just a thing, you know, you've struggled with. And maybe we can get these down and take a look at them, and then I want to give you my little chart, and we'll try to look at that chart, and I'll show you why I have it and how I use it.

I want to tell you, first of all, the chart will not solve any problems. I have the chart to show me where they are. Then I'll show you what I do with them. Some of them I've solved. Well, I'll show you the ones that I've solved lousy.

Okay. I got one this year that's been a zinger that I don't have solved. As I stand here this morning, I thought about it driving down this morning. I'm really bugged about it, and I'll tell you about it and it's crummy and you'll go, Is that right? I had no idea.

All right, somebody tell me what something you happened.

Student:

[Inaudible question]

Bob Kraning:

Okay. Let's just put time down. Time disciplines. Okay. And I'm sure all of us have.

Oh, wonderful. There it is. I'm sure all of us have those somewhere. Okay. Other things.

What else? Yes.

Student:

[inaudible question]

Bob Kraning:

Money? Okay. Just money as an issue. All right.

I'd love for us to we can't do a whole lot on this, but money is an interesting thing. There are people on wide ends of the spectrum of economics right now. There are the people who are saying, I've got to live on a very low... I've got to have a simple lifestyle. And some of you are probably in that category of saying I've got to have a simple lifestyle. And some of you have parents that do not have a simple lifestyle.

And it may have made you I thought about that this morning, was talking about the prodigal. It may have given you a bit of a prodigal spirit, not because you want half of what's yours. You don't want anything that they have and it bugs you. The only thing gets a little incongruous in the whole thing is they're paying your way through school, which bothers you, also. It's kind of like, how do I function with this whole thing?

I don't like my parents lifestyle. They make all of this money, and it's wrong because people are dying, but they are paying my way through Biola. And somewhere in there you got to get that whole thing together. So money and how we use it. To me, money is not a problem.

It's how we use money that's a problem. Something else. What else? Yeah.

Student:

[inaudible question]

Bob Kraning:

Okay.

Let's just use that as a time. Things talking about study how we use our time. Yes.

Student:

[inaudible question]

Bob Kraning:

All right. How do we handle and I don't want to put that down as emotions, because that could have mean a lot of things. How do we handle let's put down love. That's not good either. She's talking about love and the concept of Christian responsibility and love, not particularly in a dating or a sexual relationship.

She's talking more about the concept of loving as a Christian. The feelings right now in America towards Iran, feelings among the hostages. If you've listened to any of those interviews, some of them saying, yeah, they were terrible to us, but the United States has made a pact and I think they should keep it or it makes us just like them. And I have grown out of this experience, and I'm

sure what seemed to be awful will be good. This guy last night, Moore something, who was interviewed was in my mind, just spectacular in the things he said.

Then you got the other guy, the Marine who wants to take a B-52 and blow him off the face of the Earth. And I think probably among all of us there are somewhere in that spectrum are the feelings toward that. How do you handle that? How do you have your love relationships as a Christian to people who do you love? Do you love only the people that are lovely to you?

It's an interesting thought is when we get into this discipleship thing, that's one of the key areas that I want to talk about tomorrow is this idea of how do we love the person who never gets chosen. Ever think about that? Some of us have been chosen first all our lives. How do we handle the person? How do we care about the person who never gets chosen?

So our love relationships, what else? [inaudible comment]. We're talking about value concepts now, huh? Selfishness? Okay, let's leave that in the love category, because love tends to go one of two ways. It's either an outgoing thing or it's a very selfish thing when I'm pulling in.

Okay. Anything else?

Student:

[inaudible comment]

Bob Kraning:

All right, let's talk about that.

He said sharp cutting, humor. People that tend to be very caustic and hurt people with their remarks. Let's just talk about people value and we can put humor, we can put anything in there but kind of how do we look at other people. Something else more on a day to day life.

Student:

[inaudible comment]

Bob Kraning:

What, eating? Food. That's meddling. Food. Okay.

Interesting, isn't it? Okay, why are we all laughing? All right.

Yeah, somebody else.

Student:

[inaudible comment]

Bob Kraning:

Okay. All right. Let's talk about the media.

What kind of movies do you go watch? There are a lot of really excellent healthy movies out now. You can catch one every six or eight months. That just kind of goes by and lasts two days at the local theater. Right.

Interesting how our mentality tends to shift where maybe ten years ago things that we would go look at. Do you find those of you that let's talk while we're talking about this. Do you have a

code here? Do you have any kind of code at Biola? Do you have to sign something? What's on that code?

Student:

[inaudible comment]

Bob Kraning:

What?

Student:

[inaudible comment]

Bob Kraning:

No what? No dancing, no gambling, no drinking, no drugs? Well, there goes all our fun.

Okay, let's put those things down because those are things you've signed something on. And you either at this point think that's a very good thing or you think it's really dumb or you do some of those things in sight of the fact that you sign something which ends up having to do with your integrity. Does it not? If you signed something that said you wouldn't and you're doing it, you're lying. And your integrity is shot. That's a critical thing. When I went to Bob Jones.

Folks, listen, you needed an attorney to read the thing at Bob Jones.

I mean, it is a little involved about what you won't do and won't say and won't be and won't think. It gets a little technical. Your things are at least out where you can see them. You can at least say, oh, I understand that. Okay.

You all know what's on that, I presume if you signed it. Drinking? Interesting, isn't it, that contrary to popular opinion, weekends were not made for [inaudible]. We are led to believe that's true. I just have a feeling God would take exception to that. But that's interesting how the mentality tends to cruise in that direction.

What else do you have on here besides that?

Student:

[inaudible comment]

Bob Kraning:

Smoking. Oh, that's an issue, huh? Okay. Gambling? Hmm.

What else does that mean? No match stick games. What does that mean? I'm not sure. Okay, you're all smiling.

What else?

Student:

[inaudible comment]

Bob Kraning:

Oh, drugs. Drugs. Other than prescription. Okay.

Anything else? Is that basically the code?

Student:

Discretion.

Bob Kraning:

What is that?

Student:

Discretion.

Bob Kraning:

Well, we got all that on the media, so there's a discretionary media factor, and that's part of it.

Okay.

All right. How do you... Somebody expressed themselves. Do you feel as a student at Biola?

First of all, do you feel the institution has the right to legislate to you in that area? Huh?

Student:

[inaudible comment]

Bob Kraning:

Anybody? Negative. There are a lot of faculty sitting in the back. I just want you to know that.

Anybody negative? You feel that they don't have the right to legislate in that area. Obviously, they would say to you, you don't have to come here, right?

I mean, that's your choice. You choose to get this kind of an education. Okay. These are definite value things in my thinking. Now, some of them, by the nature of our backgrounds, are very important to us.

Others in our backgrounds, we would scratch our head. For instance, if you grew up in a family, in a situation, in a Church situation where dancing is very much a part of the total social order,



that would be a very funny thing to you. When you read that on a piece of paper that you're going to sign that you're not going to do that. That would be very funny in your thinking. And I think that's one of the things we have to keep in mind that we set a lot of our values out of our culture and our background.

See, and I think it's important that we understand that somebody started to say something here.

Yes.

Student:

[inaudible comment]

Bob Kraning:

Beg pardon?

Student:

[inaudible comment]

Bob Kraning:

Divorce. Yeah. Certainly your values about marriage would be an issue on there. Let's put it on the positive more than the negative, but yeah, certainly your values on marriage would be on there. We got people values over here, which to me could be a whole spectrum of things.

Where do you set your value standards in your dating relationships? Where do you see that whole thing? Let me ask the guys in here, how do you see your responsibility to girls that you date? See, that's a value standard immediately. If I'm going to be a self gratifier who pushes every girl physically as far as I can, then I really don't have any value set in my mind at all about what the whole relationship is that God ultimately wants me in.

See, if I don't have a desire to protect the girls that I date for the person they're going to marry to get the best relationship that God has for them, then I really don't have any values in that area. I can say I do or I can sign a piece of paper, but I really don't... If that's my basic thrust. If my relationship with a person is incredibly heavily dependent on the physical, I don't have a good sense of values about where I'm going. And that's terribly important that we have that.

It's interesting. I don't want to take time to show you, but I got a little graph that I use that really spells it out to me in the dating areas is to take a line and put a line down. That is your dating line from age, whatever, 14, 15, 16. Wherever you start to the point you get married, put a duration line, then up this way, put an intensity line. And in relationships, relationships tend by duration and aloneness to become very intense.

That's just the nature. Unless people really have a good value sense, they will tend to become intense where you used to kiss Goodnight, it now is much more involved in that. And you begin to run a line that will lead you if you're not very careful. And this has nothing to do with being a Christian or not being a Christian has to do with biology. It tends to lean you in a direction, and ultimately that direction culminates in sexual intercourse.

Now, the interesting thing when you get married that you discover is that that whole line we've referred to as the intensity line, that whole line is just simply called foreplay in a marriage. And it's all designed to finish up there. And once you see that, you go, oh, it's like, no wonder I had trouble handling this. See, it was all designed to go a direction. And we all know that

biologically but socially we get ourselves really messed up there and it all has to do with our value systems.

What is my purpose in a relationship? Is it to get some kind of self gratification? Is to get some kind of a physical excitement or is it to really have a relationship and you can get pieces of both in there carefully. But I think that's important. These are areas now.

We're talking about time, we're talking about money. We're talking about love loving people. We're talking about people values. And that's what we just talked about. Talking about food, how do we feel about food?

How do we feel about overeating when the world is starving to death? Those are tough things. Those are tough things to handle. We can all sit in a meeting and have somebody really chew us out or beat us down or watch a film that comes out on starvation all over the world. If you've seen any of those and you can walk out of that feeling incredibly guilty until you go to dinner, see, and then all of a sudden about a day later, you go out and really pig out and maybe afterwards feel guilty.

But because we have so much, it's hard for us to get a value on that thing. Okay, dancing. Again, much of that's your background drinking? I think drinking is a major issue. I don't want to get into a drinking issue. I just feel strongly that in a day when that is such a prevalent part of our society, we really need to have a good value concept of that and how we function with it and around it, because I think that's important.

Let me give you a little example. I was up north during a conference, a group of people from Fresno. We were out on the coast, and I had a man who rode with me. They had a little golf tournament in conjunction with their conference. And I was asked to ride with this certain man who had a major problem, which is a real thrill when you're trying to play golf.

And so anyway, we got out in about seven holes into the match. He began to share this with me, showed me, first of all, guys, Bill pulled out. Show me a picture of his daughter and beautiful girl, 16 years old and really gorgeous. And she's an equestrian. She rides jumping horses, Hunt course horses, a horse that they fly all over the United States.

And she's been very successful and they've got money and they've done well. And then he said to me, big tears came his eyes and he said, I don't know what to do. He said, something terrible has happened. I said, what is that? He said, My daughter.

He said, three times in the last month I have had to go to parties and pick up my daughter dead drunk. And he just started to cry. And he said, Why would she ever do something like this? After all we've taught her and all we've told her and all we've shared with her. And he just got like this, you know.

I just said, hey, let me ask you a question. I said, do you drink? I said, no, not.. Well... He said, When I come home from work. He said, I have a beer.

I said, A beer? He said, if it's a hot day. Two or three? Four. I said, you ever get drunk?

Oh, no. Never get drunk. Ever been sloppy? No... Well, yeah. I said, I was a couple of times at big parties. New Year's Eve. I think it was New Year's Eve. I said, Ever been sloppy where your daughter saw you? No... oh, Yeah, he said, it was once, just one time since two years ago. Told me the location, whole situation. I said, okay, then let me ask you a question.

I said, when will it be okay for your daughter to get sloppy? I'll never forget it. He took his fist and he broke the scorecard plate right off the cart. He went boom and he went Never. He just yelled at me and I said, Wait a minute, wait a minute.

I said, how old are you? He said, 38. I said, Then when she's 38, it will be okay for her to get sloppy. And then he got mad.

He turned to me and he said, we're not talking about me. We're talking about my daughter. I took my index finger and hitting right there so hard he still had the market midnight that night when he sit in my room, I said, Boom. And I said, I'm talking about you. And boy, the tears just started rolling.

I said, hey, I want to tell you something. I said, Everything she learned, she learned from you. I said, the difference between you and your daughter is she doesn't know anything about moderation. And when she gets under peer pressure, she just corks out.

You see, that has to do with values. See, I went through a period of my life where my whole mentality about freedom was having wine with dinner. I mean, that was my whole freedom kick. I grew up in a very restricted background and then went to Bob Jones, which added to that because that's somewhat restrictive. And hey, listen, I make jokes about it.

I would tell you something. On the positive side. I never had an interest or a thought in my whole life without ever being in any kind of Christian work. I had one thing I was interested in my life, and that was coaching. My father was a coach, principal, and Superintendent.

My mother is a teacher, and 23 people on my mother's side of the house are all teachers, principals, and coaches. And it's an educational family. I am the weird one in the group. And out of my experience at BJ, I really got interested in the things God maybe was leading me toward and have had just a great 26 years. So I look back and I make funny remarks.

But I do not make derogatory remarks about the education and the call that God gave me through some people in an institution in the south. But that does not take away the fact that they are restrictive. So anyway, I went through that whole pit, and then I got into kind of that whole freedom structure, and I don't want to lay any trip on you. I just want to say this, that in the situation I'm in and where I work and the Ministry that I have, I have found it to be important to me to just be a teetotaler now for somebody else. That might not be important at all.

For me, it is because I work with all the spectrums of people from people who've never even thought about that as an issue to people who, if they ever saw me in a situation, my whole

Ministry would come apart in their minds, and I'm just not ready to make that sacrifice. So that's an issue, and it's a value judgment that I make. I don't make it for you and you don't make it for me, but it's a value judgment that I make. Smoking. To me that ought to be relatively simple in my thinking.

I've just burying a guy that died of cancer, the whole chest cavity, and they told him it's because he's been a heavy smoker. That would definitely slow me down if I was a smoker, because I've gone through this whole six month death process with him, and that's not exciting. Gambling. I'm not a big gambler. I can't afford to be.

So that doesn't really strike me. But drugs, my marriage, my concepts of my marriage, those are all value things. Now, how you function within a time situation has to do with your value system. What is really important. We tend to make time for the things that we believe are important.

If we believe it is important to see a television show, we will go to no end to see that show. We will flunk to see that we're strange, aren't we, in our thinking, I will go see that, and somehow I'll make up for this at 11:30 tonight, but we make that value judgment because that's an interest or a peer group pressure, interest, whatever it is. Money. How do we... The whole issue of money. And I don't want to try to solve it because I don't know. The thing that Carol and I are trying to do right now. You talk about simplifying your lifestyle and boy, that is a whole ball of wax.

We're spending all kinds of time. One of the little things that we've done this year is I got a raise this year. I asked my board not to give me a raise last year, to give it to some of the other people

on staff that needed more than I did, and they obliged me. I asked them again this year not to give me a raise, and they didn't oblige me.

I cannot control our board of directors. They gave me a raise this year and kind of made up for last year, which really made me angry because I felt like they undid everything we did last year. And the only thing we could do out of that was just to say and it's no big deal was just to say whatever appears on that check as a raise, we're going to put in a fund and utilize it with some other people who have much more needs than we do. And it turned out to be a pretty good hunk of money that's going to build up very fast twice a month so that we can do some things. We've already set ourselves some goals.

I've got a missionary friend that I want to bring home to spend some time, and I know he needs to come, and I know he wants to come, and I know he can't afford to come. I want to do that this year. And some things like that where we can try to get involved in some things that are happening around the world, not in a big way. I don't have millions to give. I have a friend who's very wealthy who just chucked \$100,000 into Somalia, and I am thrilled that God has prospered that man so he could put \$100,000 into Somalia.

See, I'm thrilled with that. I have no core with that man. I think that's great. I think the issue of money is how I handle it, see? And if it all becomes hoggish with me, then God is going to have to deal with me on that.



I've got to handle it. But I don't think either I can stand by because I only make X and this guy makes ten times more than I do. I don't think I can stand by and be critical of him. And I think I probably as I sit around and discuss him in all my smug little spiritual ways, I think probably scripture talks more about that than it does about his money. You ever thought about all the acceptable sins we have in Christianity?

We have some that are very unacceptable, but we have others that are very acceptable. Gossip is probably the most acceptable. See, we have interesting things that the Bible is really strong about, and yet we don't even set a value standard off of what the word of God says because it is a community acceptable kind of thing. See, rape is not. We go rape, see, and that would be a horrible thing.

But we'd say gossip. Well, you know, it's not that big a deal, but I believe it is to God. And where your value system fits. So these are items you got to walk out every day. And if a value is the characteristic that demonstrates how I am going to somehow what I have said is a value system, how I walk out my life, how I demonstrate, then I've got to work with these items and many, many more. These are just ones.

Anybody else have anything that's not on here that seems terribly important to you? All of a sudden they just don't want to bring it up. You say I have one, but I'm not going to say it.

Student:

[inaudible]

Bob Kraning:

What?

Student:

Clothes.

Bob Kraning:

Clothes. I think it all fits in the money factor. How we handle money.

Are we here to look decent or are we here to run a fashion show? And I'm sure on this campus there are both kinds who just kind of cruise and do their thing, you know, others who kind of always look bad. And that's very important. We got to work with that. I got to work with that on my level.

Okay. Okay. Now let me show you the chart so we don't Cork all the time. Here, let me show you my chart. You're going to look at the chart and go, he's kidding.

That's going to solve my problem? Let me just show you something that has been very helpful to me. Let me get it where you can see it. I have a chart. This is my old chart.

I've just made a new chart. This one has four items on it. My new chart has five items on it. And the item that I've added on my new chart that I've used for about four months now is the world.

And that's my final thing.

Down at the bottom. Maybe it ought to be second on my list. I don't know. I haven't got it prioritized yet. It's at the bottom of my thinking at this point.

I've just become kind of conscious and interested in the last six months. Here's what I do. Let me just show you kind of the whole thing. You can't see it all, but we'll work at it. I've got this kind of a thing.

I have this on a sheet of paper. I have it just laid out on an eight and a half by eleven sheet of paper. I started out using it every three weeks. Now I use it every five weeks, every fifth week I would do this. And when you're in College, it's a marvelous time to do something like this because you're kind of used to assignments and things.

What I do is I just have it laid on my desk like anything else would be. I take my date book and historically I fill out this chart. And what I do is simply this. I've got the number one item on my list is God, my relationship with God. The first thing I talk about is personal.

The second thing I talk about is family. And the third thing I think about is my Church, the relationship I have within the greater family in Yucaipa that I'm a member of one Baptist Church in Yucaipa. So I've got this personal item. What kind of time am I spending in the word of God? How consistent have I been?

Has it been a daily thing with me? Have I been very sloppy on it? How about the only times I spent time in the word been times when I was studying to preach out of necessity, which is one of the great pitfalls. And you guys go into the Ministry. It's one of the great pitfalls of the Ministry is always studying for an outline for somebody else.

It's a very easy habit to get into. What I do is I simply go through my list and out here right next to them, I either, as you see, a plus or minus. I either plus it or I minus it by how I feel I did it.

Okay.

I either plus it like right here or minus it. My pen is quitting. I either plus or minus by how I feel. I did. If I had been very sloppy in that area, I would minus that and try to write one sentence about why I felt I did crummy.

Let me tell you, one of the areas that have really been tough for me this year, the area of my family. Last year, and I've always preached to guys, you got to have you need a time with your family. You need a family devotional time. It's really important if you're going to be a spiritual head of your house. This year has been the pits for us. Last year, my boys both went to school almost at the same time.

We got up at the same time. We all ate breakfast together. We had a time in the Word together. We prayed together and everybody left the house. My boys left for school.

I had 20 minutes with my wife before I left for the office. And that was our talk time that we had set, which I think is important. And it was just super. And we did a whole year and felt like we had just arrived in Mecca. I had finally, for the first time in all my years, we had something that stayed reasonably consistent for us for the whole school year.

And I was so excited about it. This year, my youngest has to be at school at ten 'til seven. My oldest boy's first class is at ten. He stays up and studies until twelve or one. He doesn't even want to get up until like 8:30 or nine.

My wife now is running, so she runs a lot earlier than she did last year. I now sleep an extra hour. And so by the time I get up, the whole world is upside down and it has just been a mess. And we have worked at this and we've tried evening and we've tried our weekend times together. And every now and then I just want to take everything we have and I'm just going to throw it up in the air and see where it lands. And it's been terrible. And it seems like every time I sat down this year to work that out, it's end up being a negative in my thinking. And I just last week sat down and used my other sheet that I'll show you in a minute and tried to rework that whole thing again and ask myself why and whatever else. But it's just been awful and I'm really bugged with it because I've preached it for so long.

I've said got to do this, guys. And here I am going, ghh, it doesn't work. And I am sure the other guys are going to say, right, Kraning, we told you that two years ago when you were telling us this, but it's just tough when the schedules all come apart. So the other thing then is the Church and how functional I've been there.

I have a tough time because of the forest home situation to be active in my Church. I'm now team teaching a class of my own peer group, which has been very healthy for me. It keeps me studying, keeps me moving, makes me watch my schedule tighter. Okay, second thing I have on my list, that first one, however you would utilize that would be your own if you don't have

anything you're using right now and probably all of you do. But if you don't, I just would encourage you with this little thing that I have here that is available and you can get it.

I don't know. I buy these in our bookstore. It's from the Navigators and some of you have probably seen this. It's this little Bible reading highlight record. And you can buy these and keep them in a loose leaf notebook.

And all it is is a little section at the top of the page right here. And then there's section down Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and so forth. And it's the date and what I read today. Best thing I marked today the reference thought that came to me as I read and how it impressed me as to my lifestyle. And it's a neat little way to spend some time in the word and try to write some things.

And they just designed it all out. And it's the NAVs. And I can buy these packs for \$0.89 or something and they'll last you forever and they're just a neat deal. If you're not using anything or if you're playing games, this is a good way to get serious about studying the word of God and kind of handle that secondary that I have is my family. Now this becomes very important to me.

Your role for many of you would be reversed on this. But the thing I try to look at is what kind of time have I spent with my wife alone in the last five weeks? And I try to think through two or three things. The times we've had to talk, the times we've had to pray together, and the times that we have just done something enjoyable together. We've gone out to dinner or whatever.

We try to go out to dinner at least once a week. We'd always go to some of the best times we've had have been back in the corner at McDonald's. We sometimes go to really nice restaurants and spend a little bigger chunk of money. But some of the best times we've ever had have been at McDonald's and Redlands.

They got a little table back at the corner that we can usually get and we're all alone and nobody walks by us and there's no front door there and it's a great place to sit and visit for an hour and a half. And those are good times for us just to enjoy each other and to be together. And I find that to be critical to my thinking to either plus or minus. How much time have I spent individually with my two sons? What kind of time did I get with Kent over this five weeks?

What time did I get with Kevin? And then what have we done together as a total family in the last five weeks? Sometimes that's a big minus. We haven't done anything as a total family. We maybe had a couple of evenings at home together, but we really haven't done anything as a total family.

And that gets minused out sometimes. And I try to write an explanation to myself. Either I was lazy. Either I schedule lousy, I do that sometimes I get taken away and I start scheduling stuff and not paying attention to my kid's schedule. But I've really tried in the last few years to schedule around my boys.

Then the other thing that I have down and these two now would come down more to where we're going to live in our living, my job or my profession? How do I relate to my staff? Where am I

involved in my public Ministry? And then what about my outside ministries? Now that's just a good time equilibrium thing for me.

I do some counseling and some other things. I try to keep those as kind of outside things from Forest Home. I have a staff of 80 people that I have some responsibility for. And what kind of time have I given them? What kind of time have I spent on the mountain?

How have I functioned in that area and to try to write myself some notes about that if it's a minus. My public Ministry, what kind of study time did I have? Am I pulling everything out of the bag in the desk drawer, or did I really put some new things together over this five week period? Did I do some things that were new and fresh and exciting to me, or am I playing games? I've been in the Ministry long enough now that I've got 80 or 90 things that are reasonably decent and I can just kind of reach in the bag and suck up a group and walk out and it's very easy to do that.

Or did I study and get my mind alerted and kind of work in that area? Then the other thing that I have, and on my new one I have too my community, and I am not sure which way those last two ones go. But one of the things I've tried to look at is my own neighbors. It's interesting to Minister in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. It's another thing to talk to my next door neighbor who I've lived by for nine years.

What kind of relationship do I have with my neighbors? And boy, as you get out into the world, those people become critical to your thinking. I don't have to walk more than a block from my



house to find a family that's been divorced in the last three months, to find a family where the husband died in the last three months, to find a family where the daughter ran away five months ago and they have no idea where she is, to find a family where they have a son who was killed in an accident. I only have to go one block from my house to find all of that. And you know something?

Sometimes we get so Ministry minded out there somewhere that we don't ever get... We don't even become aware of what's happening in the next room in the dorm. Somebody on this campus can be dying and we walk by him or sit right beside him in class every day, and we're not even aware until all of a sudden something major comes out. And all of a sudden... Have you ever had that happen? And all of a sudden you go, I know them. And you can't believe you've been sitting beside them in class for a whole semester and you were so oblivious that you didn't even know that something that major was going on.

My activities in my community. I've been involved with the school board. I've been involved in a club in the community and just tried to somehow involve myself in the community in which I live. It's another pitfall of the Ministry is don't get involved in anything. Just do your Ministry and travel around the country and get on airplanes and everybody goes, Isn't that wonderful?

What a sacrifice he makes. That's a can of worms. I live in a community that is hurting and bleeding and needs help and needs care and need somebody to love it, and I can't do it all, but I cannot walk away from it. And that all has to do with my value system and how I function. And I use that.

And then I got another little category on my new one now where I just have the world and I just try to write something on any kind of involvement little thing we've done as a family is just to pick up the paper in the morning and read about something that's happening somewhere in the world and just pray for Christians in an area where maybe there's persecution or something, just to become aware that there are other places in the world, like East Africa, like Central America, like Bogota. There are places like that where there are real people who are functioning or attempting to function. And then with this, we'll close. This is just a little thing. I don't even read this or not.

This is a little thing I use. This is a dumb thing, dumber than the other one, but it helps me take an eight and a half by eleven piece of paper in the left hand column. Write down the problem that I have. That's what I just got through doing the other day. I sat down and tried to write down why our family is having so much trouble having a time together in a word.

And I tried to write down the schedules and all the other things and try to see why in the world I'm not getting this done. If you're having trouble studying, write down why you'll solve it in five minutes. If you're interested, you'll find all these weird things you're doing and all the ways you waste time. You'll solve it very quickly if it becomes a value issue in your head. And then I write down how I believe it should be.

Then down below the line, I try to write down a plan that I have to try to walk into. I'm going to try to do that. I've got to make this plan and I'm going to try to walk into that plan and make it

happen. And that's kind of my purpose of why I use the two charts. Now, your charts would be altogether different, but I'll guarantee you, if you take items that you're working with that are flat, that you're trying to get up a value concept in any of those areas we had on there.

If you're struggling with them, Get them in there and write down what your problem is and write down what you think it should be. And what kind of a plan do you have to get over there maybe a change of people at some point I've found along the way. Sometimes I had to change some people that I spent time with. Just move it over a little bit and get some things changed there. Okay.

All right. Now, the next two days, I want to try to talk about the concept of discipleship, which is then functioning these items within a body. In other words, how do we put this together as a body? What is my responsibility to you? What is my responsibility to the person who never gets chosen?

Do I have any what is my responsibility to a pastor of a Church? What is my responsibility to admonish you? What is your responsibility to admonish one another? See, accountability to one another. That's what we're going to try to talk about.

Now, how do we get these things and walk them out in body life on the campus of Biola or anywhere else. Hey, thank you. Thank you for just being a part and hope this can help you in some little way.